

## **Local Public Health Guidance for Implementing Public Health Mitigation Measures**

March 24, 2020

*This document provides a framework for data elements to consider when implementing or discontinuing public health mitigation measures for COVID-19. This guidance is subject to change as new information about COVID-19 is incorporated. This guidance can be used to inform decision-making but is not the only factor to consider when making these decisions.*

### **Preparation**

All Iowans should be aware of how to access up to date public health information and understand and practice personal protective measures including frequent hand-washing, covering coughs and staying home when sick.

### **Social Distancing & Mitigation**

Implement social distancing and mitigation measures that include increased tele-work and tele-learning, limiting unnecessary travel especially among high-risk groups, limit visitors to health care facilities and consider school closures.

### **Shelter-in-Place**

Consider implementing shelter-in-place recommendation limiting movement to only essential activities for a period of up to 14 days with daily re-evaluation.

### **Considerations for Implementing Public Health Mitigation Measures**

- Assess whether social distancing recommendations are currently being followed in your community.
- Are there additional measures that you can take enhance community compliance with public health recommendations?
  - Are community leaders united in messages to the community?
  - Are community leaders united in their instruction of mildly ill community members to stay home vs reporting to a healthcare provider and seeking unnecessary testing.
- Assess regional healthcare personal protective equipment and workforce capacity.
- Consider strategy to ensure the supply chain remains intact for critical infrastructure, particularly the healthcare sector.
- Consider the legal authorities required for issuing order and any associated responsibilities for providing care/food/resources.
- Develop a plan for enforcement and duration of orders/measures.

#### Percent of population greater than 65 years of age

% population greater than 65 years	Assigned Value
≥20 percent	3
15 - 19 percent	2
<15 percent	1

This metric serves to provide an assessment of the vulnerable community members in a population.

#### Percent of identified cases requiring hospitalization

% of cases requiring hospitalization	Assigned Value
≥15 percent	3
12 – 14 percent	2
3 – 11 percent	1
<3 percent	0

This metric serves to inform the severity of case patients in a population.

#### Rate per 100,000 population in the past 14 days

Rate	Assigned Value
≥ 50	3
21 – 49	2
6 – 20	1
0 - 5	0

This metric serves to inform the number of cases in the community.

#### Long term care outbreaks

Number of outbreaks	Assigned Value
3	3
2	2
1	1
0	0

This metric serves to inform clusters of illness among a vulnerable population in a shared community setting.

#### Sum of assigned values

- 0 – 3 Preparation and Awareness
- 4 – 9 Social Distancing and Mitigation Strategies
- ≥10 Shelter-in-place